Message Text

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PAGE 01 DURBAN 00417 301937Z

43

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 DHA-02

IO-13 /080 W

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R 301220Z AUG 76

FM AMCONSUL DURBAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2330

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

UNCLAS DURBAN 417

E.O.11652: NA TAGS: PINT SF

SUBJECT: BUTHELEZINI KOBLVORSTER, WHITE ALACOORATE FORNRIOTS

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REF: PRETORIA 3849

- 1. KWAZULU CHIEF EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR GATSHA BUTHELEZI, ON RETURN FROM SOWETO AUGUST 29, PROCEEDED DIRECTLY TO UMLAZI WHERE HE ADDRESSED SOME 5,000 MOSTLY ZULU RESIDENTS OF THAT LARGE (OFFICIALLY 250,000) TOWNSHIP MEAR DURBAN. IN HIS SPEECH BUTHELEZI PLACED BLAME FOR SOWETO RIOTS "SQUARELY ON THE SHOULDERS OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE WHITE ELECTORATE". HE ADDED IT WAS CLEAR THAT MR. VORSTER HAD NO INTENTION OF MAKING HIS POLICIES MEANINGFUL TO BLACKS AND THAT AFRICANS WERE NOW DESPERATE AND WOULD "FIND THAT UNREST IS THE ONLY OPTION OPEN TO THEM." BUTHELEZI'S STATEMENTS REPORTEDLY DREW FREQUENT APPLAUSE BY AUDIENCE.
- 2. BUTHELEZI MADE SPECIAL APPEAL TO AFRICANS TO SUPPORT INKATHA MOVEMENT AND MAKE IT COHESIVE FORCE FOR WHITES TO RECKON WITH. HE DECRIED MANY SCHISMS EXISTING WITHIN BLACK COMMUNITY WHICH HE BELIEVED POSTERITY WOULD VIEW AS "FIDDLING WHILE ROME BURNED". (EVEN AS BUTHELEZI SPOKE, A NEW PAMPHLET UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 DURBAN 00417 301937Z

WAS BEING CIRCULATED IN UMLAZI ATTACKING CHIEF AND SPCBIG HE

WAS NOT WANTED IN UMLAZI.)

3. BUTHELEZI, IN CONTEXT OF CALL FOR BLACK UNITY, APPEALED TO AFRICANS NOT "EVEN TO CONTEMPLATE" ATTACKING INDIANS WHO ALSO WERE MEMBERS OF OPPRESSED PEOPLES OF SOUTH AFRICA.
BUTHELEZI WAS REACTING TO MINOR PANIC WHICH OCCURRED LAST WEEK IN DURBAN'S INDIAN TOWNSHIP OF CHATSWORTH AFTER RUMORS CIRCULATED THAT AFRICANS WERE GOING TO CHATSWORTH TO ATTACK INDIANS.
BUTHELEZI SAID SUCH RUMORS ONLY AIDED OPPONENTS OF BLACK UNITY AND RETARDED COMMON STRUGGLE FOR LIBERATION.
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TAGS: PINT, SF, (BUTHELEZI, GATSHA)
To: STATE

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